## Message Text

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STATE FOR DENNIS KUX NEA/INS

E.O. 11652 N/A TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJ: DECLASSIFICATION OF LAST/KIEFER REPORT

**REF: STATE 154149** 

- 1. IN RESPONSE TO REFTEL REQUEST FOR IAEC AGREEMENT TO DECLASSIFICATION OF THE LAST/KIEFER REPORT PROVIDED THAT THE DECLASSIFICATION DOCUMENT WILL BE MODIFIED BY INCORPORATING ALL AND ONLY THOSE CHANGES REQUESTED BY IAEC IN BOMBAY 3084, J.C. SHAH, CHAIRMAN OF THE INDIAN ATOMIC POWER AUTHORITY, HAS GIVEN AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE IAEC AS FOLLOWS: QUOTE: WE ARE GENERALLY AGREEABLE TO THIS IF IT STRENGTHENS THE STATE DEPARTMENT'S EFFORTS TO VACATE THE ORDER STAYING XSNM-845, BUT WITH THE FOLLOWING STIPULATIONS:
- (A) PART II OF THE REPORT, WHICH COVERS OBSERVATIONS ARE NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS, MAY NOT BE DECLASSIFIED.

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- (B) IN PART I, TABLE 2, IN THE "REMARKS" COLUMN, THE PHRASE "IN SPITE OF HIGH OFF-GAS" SHOULD EITHER BE DELETED OR SUPPLEMENTED BY "(WHICH, HOWEVER, WAS WELL WITHIN PREMISSIBLE LIMITES)". THIS IS TO AVOID A MISUNDERSTANDING OF THE FACUAL SITUATION. (SIGNED) J.C. SHAH. END QUOTE.
- 2. COMMENT: IAEC AGREEMENT TO RELEASE A PART OF THE LAST/

KIEFER REPORT WAS ACHIEVED ONLY AFTER A FURTHER INTERVENTION BY CONGEN WITH CHAIRMAN SETHNA PURSUANT TO DENNIS KUX'S TELEPHONE CALL ON MORNING OF JULY 4TH BOMBAY TIME. IAEC'S MAIN RESERVATION ABOUT RELEASE OF REPORT CENTERED ON FEAR THAT PUTTING REPORT IN PUBLIC DOMAIN WOULD SIMPLY STIMULATE A NEW SERIES OF QUESTIONS FROM THE INTERVENORS. CONGEN ARGUED THAT THE LAST/KIEFER REPORT COULD BE CRITICAL IN CONVINCING GHE COURT OF THE URGENCY OF THE CURRENT NEED FOR FRESH FUEL AND OF THE SACRIFICES THAT THE IAEC HAS ALREADY SUFFERED IN REDUCING THE FEBRUARY CHARGE AT UNIT ONE FROM 85 TO 60 FUEL ASSEMBLIES. THE LAST/KIEFER REPORT ESTABLISHES MAY 1977 AS THE ARRIVAL DATE FOR FRESH FUEL AND INDORSES 85 BUNDLES AS THE "NORMAL" RECHARGE.

- 3. THE IAEC REFUSES TO AGREE TO RELEASE OF PART II OF THE LAST/KIEFER REPORT BECAUSE THIS SECTION CONTAINS ONLY OBSERVATIONS WHICH THE AUTHORS SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFY AS "NOT DIRECTLY RELATED TO THE ENRICHED FUEL INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN PART OF THIS REPORT". THUS, PART I TOGETHER WITH ITS APPENDICES COVERS THE MATTERS ADDRESSED BY LAST AND KIEFER WHICH ARE DIRECTLY ASSOCIATED WITH XSNM-845.
- 4. THE IAEC'S SUBSTANTIVE OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF PART II STEMS FROM THE EMPHASIS IN THIS PART OF THE REPORT ON THE REPROCESSING PLANT AND ON THE SPENT FUEL STORAGE PROBLEM. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IAEC DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS MATERIAL WILL BE HELPFUL AT THIS TIME AND IT ALSO HAS DOUBTS ABOUT INTRODUCING LAST AND KIEFER'S REMARKS CONCERNING A SHORTER FABRICATION CAMPAIGN AT NFC AND PROBLEMS WITH TARAPUR FUEL. THEY FEEL THAT THE LATTER POINTS COULD EASILY BE TURNED AGAINST THEM ON HEALTH AND SAFETY GROUNDS. INCIDENTALLY, THEIR REQUEST TO ADD AN EDITORIAL COMMENT IN THE REMARKS COLUMN OF TABLE 2 OF UNIT #2 TO POINT UP THAT THE HIGH OFF-GAS WAS STILL WITHIN TOLERABLE LIMITES STEMS FROMTHE CHARGES IN THE MOTHER JONES ARTICLES EARLIER PICKED UP BY THE INTERVENORS. SHAH ATTACHES GREAT IMPORTANT TO MAKING THE CHANGE HE REQUESTS IN THE "REMARKS" COLUMN OF TABLE 2.

5. CONGEN HOPES THAT RELEASE OF PART I OF THE REPORT WILL MEET THE DEPARTMENT'S REQUIREMENTS. TO OBTAIN THE IAEC'S AGREEMENT TO RELEASE OF PART II WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL ARGUMENTATION REBUTTING THE ABOVE DISCUSSION AND IN CONGEN'S VIEW, WOULD BE VERY DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. AS THE IAEC HAS SPECIFICALLY OBJECTED TO RELEASE OF PART II, USG SHOULD CERTAINLY

NOT MAKE SUCH A RELEASE UNILATERALLY AS SUCH ACTION WOULD SERIOUSLY DAMAGE PROSPECTS FOR FUTURE COOPERATION ON EXHVNAGE OF INFORMATION WITH SETHNA'S GROUP. COURTNEY

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